

UNCLASSIFIED (S12)

RWANDA TALKING POINTS

RELEASED IN FULL
AW
MNI2

(12)

Stop the Killing

- President Clinton has publicly called on the Rwandan Army and the Rwandan Patriotic Front to agree to an immediate ceasefire and return to negotiations aimed at lasting peace in their country. I applaud the efforts of regional leaders actively engaged in the quest for peace, and reaffirm the American commitment to participate in renewed negotiations under the Arusha framework.

The pain and suffering of the Rwandan people have touched the hearts of all Americans. It is time for the leaders of Rwanda to recognize their common bond of humanity and reject the senseless and criminal violence that continues to plague their country.

- We have encouraged other world leaders to take similar actions to help persuade the Rwandan military and militias to stop the killing.

Call for Ceasefire

- We support two tracks toward a ceasefire:
 - the work of the Secretary General's Special Representative and the UNAMIR Force Commander in Kigali to broker a ceasefire in place in Kigali.
 - the reopening of the Arusha process facilitated by the Government of Tanzania to reaffirm the ceasefire at the political level of negotiations.

Resume Negotiations

- At our suggestion, the President of Tanzania invited the Rwandan Government and the RPF to resume negotiations. The GOR delegation did not arrive for the first session April 23 in Arusha. The next session is expected to be in Dar Es Salaam, but no date has been set. Formal observers are expected from the US., France, Belgium, Germany, Uganda, Burundi, Zaire, Nigeria and the OAU.
- Our objective is to have the parties reaffirm as much as possible of their agreement from Arusha of August 4, 1993. It included a ceasefire, agreed principles on the rule of law, and a sharing of power in the government, in the national assembly, and in the Army and Gendarmes to be supervised by the UN (UNAMIR).

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

- We support the creation of an international investigation.
- We will have an active observer at the talks as long as they show some prospect of progress.

Humanitarian Assistance

- About 54,000 Rwandans have sought refuge in neighboring countries. Hundreds of thousands of persons are currently displaced inside Rwanda.
- The U.S. urges all sides to guarantee the security of these displaced persons and to assure the unimpeded flow of food and relief supplies.
- The U. S. is identifying food commodities that can be applied to this emergency within the Greater Horn of Africa and are working with international and non-governmental to develop delivery mechanisms.

Background

- We do not know who shot down the aircraft on April 6 in which President Habyarimana was killed. We are not even 100% certain it was not an accident.
- We do believe that much of the subsequent violence had been planned in advance by persons in or close to the Presidential Guard and the MRND (Presidential Party) youth group. Ministers from opposition parties were among the first to be killed.
- Humanitarian agencies estimate that at least 100,000 persons have been massacred, and fear the number may be much higher.
- Since April 6, the RPF has moved from a stretch of territory along the Uganda border all the way to Kigali where it now controls about one-third of the capital. Fighting continues in Kigali. The RPF also controls much of the eastern third of Rwanda.
- We do not accept the interim government's assertion that massacres cannot be stopped until the RPF observes a ceasefire. Nor do we accept RPF conditions on a ceasefire.

UNCLASSIFIED